

the legendary group La Sonora Matancera, and after several successful recordings, the group's music was in demand beyond the borders of Cuba.

When Celia left Cuba for the United States in 1960, her career blossomed and she became a household name. During her first decade in the United States, she recorded several albums with the great Tito Fuente, and together, they captured the hearts of nontraditional fans of salsa, a phenomenon known as 'the Salsa of the 70s.' Celia has also collaborated with other great Latin artists, including Johnny Pacheco, Willy Colón, and la Fania All Stars, as well as great American artists, such as Dionne (DEE-ON) Warwick, Patti Labelle, David Byrne, Gloria Estefan, and Wyclef Jean.

Celia Cruz's boundless energy transfixed generations of salsa fans and musicians. The powerful presence of music in her life could not have been expressed any better than in her own words: in an interview, she once said that she was 'born with the music inside of her.' And, by God, she expressed the music 'inside of her' until the very last day of her battle with cancer.

I was introduced to Celia Cruz's music at an early age, and enjoy her work and dance to her music now, more than ever. As the former Mayor of Union City, New Jersey, I was honored to recognize her achievements and contributions during an awards ceremony almost two decades ago.

On that day, and until her death, Celia Cruz, the Queen of Salsa, the music icon, the star, remained down-to-earth, people-oriented, and was loved by everyone for her music, her passion and her style. She was one of the few bridges that crossed cultural and racial divides.

Celia Cruz's death has left a void in the lives of so many, but her music and words live on, as she leaves behind a legacy on so many levels. I will never forget the famous lines from a recent song, 'La Vida es un Carnaval—No hay que llorar,' which means, life is a carnival, you don't have to cry. So simple and so true.

And just like Celia would end her songs with the impulsive and unique AZUCAR! or sugar, I end tonight by saying our memories of you, Ceilia, are as sweet as sugar. You will never be forgotten, and you will always be missed.

HONORING ROBERT P. "BOBBY" KOCH ON HIS PROMOTION TO PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE WINE INSTITUTE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert P. "Bobby" Koch and congratulate him on his recent promotion to the position of President and Chief Executive Officer of the Wine Institute. Bobby is no stranger to many of us. He has long been the voice of the Wine Institute here on Capitol Hill, and prior to that he was an employee of this body, serving Representatives Coelho and GEPHARDT, ending his service in this House as Mr. GEPHARDT's Chief of Staff.

It is a clear sign of Bobby's ability that the Board of Directors of the Wine Institute did not

hesitate to appoint him to replace John DeLuca as President and Chief Executive. I know that they will not be disappointed that they have put their trust in Bobby's capable hands. The wine business is a \$33 billion a year industry in California and it is a crucial part of the state's economy. An industry this large needs a clear, united voice both here in Washington and across the country, and I know that the Wine Institute will continue to provide this voice under Bobby's leadership. Bobby will always be the first person I turn to when I need to know the viewpoint of the industry.

Bobby has not limited his contributions to California's wine industry. He has been an active member of his community for many years. Bobby is a member of the USDA Agricultural Policy Committee for Trade, and also serves on the Boards of the National Commission Against Drunk Driving, the Council on American Politics at George Washington University, the Congressional Wine Foundation, and the California State Society. He has also worked tirelessly to raise millions of dollars for worthy causes, including efforts to cure Crohn's disease and colitis and the National Children's Hospital.

He has managed to accomplish all of this at the same time that he and his wonderful wife, Doro Bush Koch, have raised a family of four great children. I am sure that he considers his family to be his greatest accomplishment of all.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly a pleasure for me to be able to honor the accomplishments of Bobby Koch, a great leader for the Wine Institute and a dear friend as well. I wish him many more years of success as he takes on this exciting and challenging new role.

HONORING LATE LEADER OF SOUTH LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Howard Stockton of Clermont, Florida. The long time leader of the South Lake Chamber of Commerce in my Fifth Congressional District of Florida, Mr. Stockton passed away this weekend after a long battle with cancer.

Howard Stockton will be greatly missed by all who knew him and will be remembered as a kind, caring man with vigor and enthusiasm, and as a consensus builder with amazing ability and talent.

As many current Floridians, myself included, Mr. Stockton was not a native of Florida but made it his home. An Ohio native, a graduate of Kent State University, a former teacher and administrator, Mr. Stockton retired to Florida with his wife in 1989 to be closer to his two sons.

However, his penchant for activity and his well-known energy and zest would not allow him to simply live the tranquil life associated with retirement. He joined the local Loins Club and the South Lake Council for the Arts and then took his community activity to the next level by accepting the position of executive director of the Clermont Area Chamber of Commerce.

Under his leadership, the strength and membership of the chamber grew. He guided it from a small city group into a regional organization nearly three times its original size. The success of the South Lake Chamber of Commerce is a reflection of Mr. Stockton's charismatic personality and his remarkable ability to bring people together.

We in the State of Florida and in the South Lake Chamber are both very fortunate that Mr. Stockton was able to share his extraordinary abilities with us and at the same time very saddened by the loss of such a wonderful man.

It has been said that, "When you met Howard, you felt like you had met a friend." we will all miss our friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERNIE FLETCHER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. FLETCHER of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, July 16, 2003, had I been present for rollcall vote No.'s 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374 and 375, I would have voted the following way: rollcall vote No. 368—"aye," rollcall vote No. 369—"aye," rollcall vote No. 370—"no," rollcall vote No. 371—"aye," rollcall vote No. 372—"aye," rollcall vote No. 373—"aye," rollcall vote No. 374—"aye," and rollcall vote No. 375—"aye."

ON REMEMBERING CELIA CRUZ

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today, the Latin music world mourns the passing of "The Queen of Salsa," "La Reina de la Salsa", Celia Cruz, who passed away 43 years and one day after she left her homeland, Cuba, for the United States. I am honored to recall how Celia Cruz, the world-renowned performer, and I crossed paths at different moments. She sang at my first victory party, celebrating my win as the first Cuban-American woman to win a seat in Congress in a special election in 1989. She accompanied me to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, when I went to visit the Cuban rafters detained on our base, to see for myself their living conditions and physical well-being. I will never forget how she kissed the ground when our plane landed and how she sang that day to the Cubans held there with the passion and love of a true native who has been presented the chance of standing on her native soil, even though poignantly, it was on our base, after so many years. She was also a friend to the Republican Party, performing at the 2000 Republican convention in Philadelphia, where President George W. Bush accepted the nomination to the presidency.

In her long career, Celia Cruz never forgot the country of her birth, evoking Cuba in every performance, but never returning to her homeland. She was a political exile who never returned to Cuba, not even when her father died, denied entry by Fidel Castro, who was

still angry at her defection many years before. When Fidel Castro came to power in 1959, Celia was the lead singer of La Sonora Matancera, Cuba's most popular orchestra. The group headlined Havana's world-famous Tropicana nightclub and casino and toured the United States and Central and South America. La Sonora Matancera's fame and frequent tours provided them an escape route, by pretending they were going on another tour, never returning to Cuba.

I am honored to be here today to talk about a music legend. She recorded more than 70 albums, many of them gold and platinum records, and received twelve Grammy nominations, winning for the first time in 1989. Celia was honored with stars and street sections in some of the most well-known avenues of the world. Hollywood gave her a star on the Walk of Fame in 1987. Miami's Calle Ocho was named "Celia Cruz Way" and presented her with a star, an honor she has received in other cities such as San Jose, Costa Rica and the Plaza Galeria in Mexico City, Mexico. She received many awards and distinctions, which include a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Smithsonian Institution, the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hispanic Heritage Awards, and in 1994, she received in the White House the highest honor the United States can bestow on an artist: the National Endowment for the Arts.

Celia Cruz was a musical icon that made Cuban music known beyond our national borders while touching different generations. Lovers of Latin music worldwide embraced her style and boundless energy on the stage as they enjoyed her contagious music and rhythms. For the Cuban American exile community, she was the link between young Cuban Americans and their parents' generation, making Cuba a reality to the younger generation by providing them with the music that entertained their parents and their grandparents.

Celia's fondest dream never became a reality: the opportunity of returning to a free and democratic Cuba. This woman who sang for presidents and heads of state worldwide simply wanted to return one day to the country she had known. She hoped to one day perform again in the land of her birth, and to utter her signature catch phrase "Azucar" to her fellow Cubans. She left us before her dream became a reality, but I say "Azucar" in her honor and in her memory.

Celia, I know that you can hear us this evening. We love you and your music will continue to live in our hearts. We will never forget you. I promise you, Celia, that I will continue to work tirelessly in the United States Congress for your dream of a free and democratic Cuba. At that time, the Cuban people will once again be able to enjoy your music filled with rich, Cuban rhythms and Afro beats "en libertad"—in freedom. May you rest in peace, Celia!

BURMESE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I support the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, H.R. 2330, because I believe that it is essential to demonstrate that the United States refuses to help perpetuate the brutality of Burma's military junta against the Burmese people. The junta, which ironically calls itself the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), has recently stepped up its anti-democracy activities by violently cracking down on pro-democracy activists, and re-imprisoning the opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Ms. Suu Kyi, a Nobel peace laureate, has already spent much of the last 15 years with her movements and speaking restricted under house arrest. I understand that a month ago, after spending only one year free from 20 months of recent house arrest, Ms. Suu Kyi was again detained and is now being held in a Burmese prison notorious for its poor conditions and the mistreatment, and even torture, of political prisoners. The United States must take every opportunity to be a leader in pressuring the SPDC to free Aung San Suu Kyi and her fellow opposition leaders.

The import sanctions created by the Act will hit the military junta where it can be hurt worst—by taking strong action against the SPDC-controlled economy and depriving the military of a source of revenue.

The slave-like labor conditions in Burma are one indication of the extent of the junta's cruelty against the Burmese people. In 2000, after reviewing the working conditions in Burma, an International Labor Organization (ILO) team of experts found that the junta continued to restrict worker rights and to use forced labor on a widespread basis. After receiving the report, the ILO took the unprecedented step of invoking Article 33 of the ILO Charter and formally urged its 174 member states to review their relations with Burma. This is as close as the ILO can come to urging sanctions upon a country.

It is likely that more than a million people in Burma are subjected to forced labor on construction sites for roads, railways, military installations and tourism. The military is particularly notorious for imposing forced labor on villagers living near military operations. Even more outrageous is that this forced labor is often accompanied by brutality, such as torture, arbitrary and extrajudicial execution, rape, and population displacements. Non-compliance by one individual has been known to bring the junta's wrath upon a whole village. For example, the transport of food and other market goods to and from a village could be blocked, or a whole village could be faced with the threat of relocation. Forced labor has the additional effect of forcing villagers to neglect their own fields, making hunger an ever-present concern. Sometimes, even during harvesting times, they are forced to travel far from their village to work. If and when they return, they often do not have the ability to sustain the needs of their own homes and communities.

The current regime's policies of ethnic cleansing, rape as an official tool of repres-

sion, the growing and producing of heroin, the forced labor conditions—they all must end. We have tried other methods to encourage the military regime to change its course, to no avail. Only if the United States and others in the international community come together to impose sanctions and deprive the junta of its economic power can the Burmese people hope to have any relief from the long list of atrocities being committed upon them.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. EILEEN H. TOUGHILL, R.N., PH.D.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to laud the accomplishments of Ms. Eileen H. Toughill, R.N., Ph. D. Dr. Toughill holds the position of both Executive Director of the Community Health Center of Asbury Park and Director of Community Health at the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey. Dr. Toughill recently received the VNA of Central Jersey Award for Professional Distinction, proving to be indicative of her compassion and dedication to her work.

The Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey is a nonprofit home health agency that promotes the "restoration and healthcare" of all members of the community. In her capacity as Director of Community Health for VNACJ, Dr. Toughill holds responsibility over the provision of health services to more than 65,000 vulnerable and underprivileged community-based residents. In addition to these duties, Dr. Eileen Toughill has taken on even greater responsibilities for the welfare of community residents following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 by establishing a comprehensive response to the chaos and stress that followed the attacks, including bereavement and trauma counseling.

Other achievements that this exceptional woman has accomplished include an outreach program to assist residents in hotels, motels, boarding homes and shelters in Monmouth and Middlesex counties. Dr. Eileen Toughill pioneered the start up of two nurse practitioner-managed primary care centers as well as helping to implement an AIDS education and prevention program in four correctional institutions.

Dr. Toughill's crowning achievement came this Spring when through her hard work she saw the Community Health Center of Asbury Park successfully designated as a full-fledged Federally Qualified Health Center. This includes a renewable federal grant of \$475,000, allowing the center to expand its current primary care services to include prenatal care and mental health, as well as increasing the number of patients the center can serve. Dr. Toughill's implementation of multiple programs as well as her perseverance in securing federal funding for her community's health center is admirable. Dr. Eileen Toughill's accomplishments are outstanding—they exemplify determined commitment to the ideals of healthcare for all, and demonstrate how one individual can actively make a difference.

Mr. Speaker, on this day I rise up to acknowledge a truly remarkable individual and I